

Claims

1. A method for the treatment of diabetes mellitus and conditions associated with diabetes mellitus in a mammal, which method comprises administering an effective non-toxic and pharmaceutically acceptable amount of an insulin sensitiser and a sub-maximal amount of an insulin secretagogue, to a mammal in need thereof.
2. A method according to claim 1, wherein the insulin secretagogue is a sulphonylurea.
3. A method according to claim 1, wherein the insulin secretagogue is glibenclamide, glipizide, gliclazide, glimepiride, tolazamide, tolbutamide, acetohexamide, carbutamide, chlorpropamide, glibornuride, gliquidone, glisentide, glisolamide, glisoxepide, glyclopyamide and glycylamide or repaglinide.
4. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 3, wherein the insulin sensitiser is 5-[4-[2-(N-methyl-N-(2-pyridyl)amino)ethoxy]benzyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione (Compound I) or a tautomeric form thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.
5. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 4, which comprises the administration of 2 to 12 mg of Compound (I).
6. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 5, which comprises the administration of 2 to 4, 4 to 8 or 8 to 12 mg of Compound (I).
7. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 6, which comprises the administration of 2 to 4mg of Compound (I).
8. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 6, which comprises the method the administration of 4 to 8mg of Compound (I).
9. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 6, which comprises the administration of 8 to 12 mg of Compound (I).

10. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 6, which comprises the administration of 2 mg of Compound (I), or a tautomeric form thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.
- 5 11. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 6, which comprises the administration of 4 mg of Compound (I).
12. A method according to any one of claims 1 to 6, which comprises the administration of 8 mg of Compound (I).
- 10 13. A method according to claim 1, wherein the insulin sensitiser is (+) -5-[[4-[(3,4-dihydro-6-hydroxy-2, 5, 7, 8-tetramethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-2-yl)methoxy]phenyl]methyl]-2,4-thiazolidinedione (or troglitazone), 5-[4-[(1-methylcyclohexyl)methoxy]benzyl] thiazolidine-2,4-dione (or ciglitazone), 5-[4-
15 [2-(5-ethylpyridin-2-yl)ethoxy]benzyl] thiazolidine-2,4-dione (or pioglitazone) or 5-[(2-benzyl-2,3-dihydrobenzopyran)-5-ylmethyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione (or englitazone); or a tautomeric form thereof and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.
- 20 14. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an insulin sensitiser, a sub-maximal amount of an insulin secretagogue and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor.
- 25 15. A composition according to claim 14, wherein the insulin secretagogue is a sulphonylurea.
- 30 16. A composition according to claim 14 or claim 15, wherein the insulin secretagogue is glibenclamide, glipizide, gliclazide, glimepiride, tolazamide or tolbutamide, acetohexamide, carbutamide, chlorpropamide, glibornuride, gliquidone, glisentide, glisolamide, glisoxepide, glyclopamide and glycyamide or repaglinide.
- 35 17. A composition according to any one of claims 14 to 16, wherein the insulin sensitiser is Compound (I)
18. A composition according to any one of claims 14 to 17, which comprises 2 to 12 mg of Compound (I).

19. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an insulin sensitiser, a sub-maximal amount of an insulin secretagogue and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor, for use as an active therapeutic substance.
- 5 20. A pharmaceutical composition comprising an insulin sensitiser, a sub-maximal amount of an insulin secretagogue and a pharmaceutically acceptable carrier therefor, for use in the treatment of diabetes mellitus and conditions associated with diabetes mellitus.
- 10 21. A composition according to any one of claims 14, 19 or 20, wherein the insulin sensitiser is (+) -5-[[4-[(3,4-dihydro-6-hydroxy-2, 5, 7, 8-tetramethyl-2H-1-benzopyran-2-yl)methoxy]phenyl]methyl]-2,4-thiazolidinedione (or troglitazone), 5-[4-[(1-methylcyclohexyl)methoxy]benzyl] thiazolidine-2,4-dione (or ciglitazone), 5-[4-[2-(5-ethylpyridin-2-yl)ethoxy]benzyl] thiazolidine-2,4-dione (or pioglitazone) or 5-[(2-benzyl-2,3-dihydrobenzopyran)-5-ylmethyl]thiazolidine-2,4-dione (or englitazone); or a tautomeric form thereof
- 15 and/or a pharmaceutically acceptable derivative thereof.